

## THE ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE.

## Frightful Loss of Life.

ROME, Feb. 23.—Two shocks of earthquake were felt at Nice at 6 o'clock this morning. Houses rocked, walls cracked, and in some cases frail tenements were thrown to the ground. Many persons were injured by falling debris. Shocks were also felt at Monte Carlo and Monaco, at which places they were so severe that rocks were detached from the cliffs and precipitated into the sea. The disturbances extended as far Genoa.

The earthquake devastated the whole of the Italian Riviera at Noli, on the Gulf of Genoa, and not far from Savona. Several houses fell and forty-five persons were killed and thirty injured at Oneglia, on the Gulf of Genoa. At Dianomarina, near Oneglia, scores of people were killed and hundreds injured. Fully one third of the town was destroyed.

A second and severe shock of earthquake has occurred in Genoa, Pavia, Lucia, Cuneo, Albissello, Poto, Maurizio, Oneglia and Noli. At Savona eight persons were killed and fifteen others injured. Immense damage was done to property.

At Leghorn the earthquake had a strong undulatory movement, accompanied by underground rumbling, which lasted twenty seconds.

At Lucina the shock lasted forty seconds. At Geneva it lasted one minute, creating the greatest excitement. As far as ascertained, no damage was caused.

Despatches concerning earthquakes in the South of Europe this morning state that two violent shocks were felt at Toulon at 6 o'clock. The first was of fifteen seconds duration and the second of twelve seconds. The movement was from west to east.

At Avignon three shocks were experienced between 6 and 8 o'clock. The first shock was very violent and awakened everybody in the place. Several shocks were felt at Geneva at 6 o'clock.

ROME, Feb. 24.—Details have been received this morning of the results of the earthquakes yesterday, showing that the effects were far more serious than was thought. The loss of life and destruction of property is learned to have been terrible. The most startling news comes from the Genoa Riviera. Over 1500 persons were killed in that district. At the village of Bajardo, situated at the top of a hill, a number of inhabitants took refuge in a church when the shocks were first felt. Subsequent shocks demolished the church, and 300 of the people who were in it were killed. The destruction of property in sections of Italy visited by the earthquakes was immense and widespread.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—A dispatch from Nice says another earthquake shock was felt in that city this morning. The disturbance was slight. A dispatch from Rome gives the following official list of the killed and wounded: Bajardo, 300 killed and wounded; Diana Marina, 250 killed and wounded; Bressano, 9 killed and 36 injured; Diana Castello, 30 and many wounded.

The number of persons killed is less than was supposed. It is estimated that in the provinces of Porto Maurizio 570 persons were killed and 160 injured. In the province of Genoa 42 were killed and 32 injured. Bajardo and Diana Marina were the only places destroyed. The churches at Bajardo, Castello and Argnis were thrown down by the severity of the shock.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—The town of Diana Marina is reduced almost to a heap of ruins, upon which soldiers and policemen are now engaged in the melancholy work of disinterring the dead. In a house near a church the explorers exposed to light a scene of pitiful horror. A carnival ball had been held in the house on Tuesday night, and dancing was still going on at 5:30 o'clock on Wednesday morning when the first earthquake shock came and overwhelmed the joyous company in one common fate. The house suddenly collapsed at the first shock and not a person within its walls escaped. The explorers wept as they laboriously brought to view victim after victim, men and women in their carnival finery besmeared with blood and dust.

The loss of property has been very great. At Diana Marina alone it is estimated at 2,500,000 francs. Another village, Deano Castell, is completely destroyed and the inhabitants have disappeared. Along the shore many bodies have been recovered still clothed in masquerade dresses. One house fell in just as a lady was entering it and buried all the inmates in the ruins. The village of Castillon is a mass of ruins, under which many people are reported to have been buried.

LONDON, March 1.—A fisherman in the harbor of Genoa on the night preceding the earthquake noticed that the sea had retreated much more than usual. Intuitively feeling that something was about to happen, he remained the whole of the night on the bay.

The inhabitants of Oneglia complain that the authorities neglect them because of the belief that the town had suffered less damage than did others. On the contrary they say although the walls of the houses being well built withstood the shocks all the interiors collapsed in consequence, of which 9,000 persons are compelled to live in sheds and tents, suffering greatly through the exposure to the wind and rain. Of 300 bodies buried at Diana Marina only fifteen were identified. Five thousand persons there are still camping out. The air is becoming horribly offensive owing to the stench arising from the bodies that are yet in the ruins. Many of the injured were sheltered were

blown down by the wind, and before the helpless patients could be removed to a place of safety they died all covered with snow and half dead from cold.

## The United States Navy.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The aggregate increase to the Navy Appropriation bill by the Senate Committee on Appropriations is between twenty and twenty-two millions, but inasmuch as the largest expenditure covers a period of five years, it is estimated that the additional appropriations for the next fiscal year will not exceed \$6,000,000, which will raise the aggregate expenditure for the year to between thirty-one and thirty-two millions. The Senate committee strikes out the House provision of \$10,740,000 for two steel cruisers, and substitutes an appropriation of \$9,000,000 for six protected steel cruisers, and 1,200,000 to pay premiums for extra speed of the same. It also appropriates \$2,280,000 for the armament of these vessels; 6,000,000 to be paid for the construction of heavily armed vessels, floating batteries and rams, and \$2,000,000 for their armament. Eight hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the construction of light-draft gunboats, \$720,000 for torpedo boats, \$600,000 for torpedo and torpedo appliances, \$112,000 for the purchase of the Destroyer, and \$10,000 for her care and operation. The provision for the equipment of vessels is increased \$100,000; that for the purchase of proving ground is increased \$200,000, and that for rebuilding wharves at the Boston Navy Yard is increased \$25,000. The appropriation for the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing is decreased \$30,000.

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